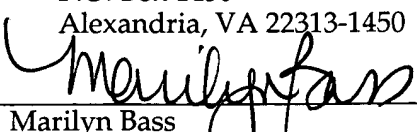


REMARKS

Claims 9-16 and 24-30 were pending in the application. All claims stand rejected. In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants amend claims 9 and 11, and add new claims 35-38 that are supported by the original disclosure at, e.g., ¶¶ 0077-0093, 0099 and 0126. It is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 9-16, 24-30 and 35-38, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,  
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Dated: May 6, 2005   
Farzad E. Amini, Reg. No. 42,261

<p>12400 Wilshire Boulevard Seventh Floor Los Angeles, California 90025  (310) 207-3800</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u></p> <p>I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope with sufficient postage, addressed to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p> Marilyn Bass</p> <p style="text-align: right;">May <u>06</u>, 2005</p>
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